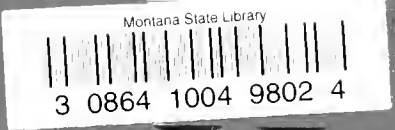


362.2905
A35h
Aug-Sept-Oct.
1984



RETURN

The Habit

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE DIVISION
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS
1539 11TH AVENUE, HELENA, MONTANA 59620

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, 1984

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE DIVISION
1539 11TH AVE
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

It would appear that in the not too far distant future the role of the 16mm film and projector for training and prevention purposes will decrease in importance, and video recordings will, to a great extent, replace them. Therefore, we request that you complete the questionnaire below and return it to the Department of Institutions, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, 1539 11th Avenue, Helena, MT. 59620. The purpose of the survey is to help us determine if it would be feasible or practical to divert some of the film purchase funds into video cassettes.

The last questions on the survey form are to help us plan for whatever impact, if any, computerized program information may have. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

PROGRAM NAME

We have VCR equipment Recorder ☒ Monitor ☒

We do not have VCR equipment ☐

We expect to have VCR equipment soon ☒

We have VCR equipment available to us ☐

We would probably not use any VCR equipment ☐

We are currently using a computer ☒

We do not use a computer ☐

We expect to have a computer soon ☐

We have no need for a computer ☐

Life is complicated enough as it is ☒

You may return the questionnaire separately or include it with your month end reports.

PRESIDENT REAGAN DESIGNATES "NATIONAL DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING AWARENESS WEEK"

President Reagan signed a resolution (SJ Res. 303) (PL-98-338) designating December 9-15, 1984, as "National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week." The 1984 observance will mark the third annual week of activities designed to promote public awareness of the problem of drunk and drugged driving.

Plans are underway to introduce a resolution for a second annual observance of National Fetal Alcohol Awareness Week, which last year took place January 15-21. Groups working on the effort are considering the designation of a week later in the year to provide more time for preparation.

ONE FOR THE ROAD

"THE 1994 SURVEY shows that the public continues to be upset over the social and economic waste of drunk driving and the killing of innocent people day after day," according to L. C. Christopher, Alliance Vice President-Communications.

"The interesting point is that while both the public and private sectors have done a lot over the past year to address the drunk driving problem, the public still expects more to be done and people are willing to be involved given the opportunity," Christopher said.

THE ALLIANCE is a founding partner with other national citizen action organizations of the CB Radio Coalition Against Drunk Driving. The Coalition promotes proper use of CB Radio Emergency Channel 9 for an "Impaired Driver Alert." It is estimated that some 30 million CB radios are in use or carried as part of an emergency kit. Christopher emphasized that the Impaired Driver Alert should describe only the vehicle and the way it is being driven, not to judge the driver.

'One should never describe another driver as 'drunk' because the driver may be ill, falling asleep or having some other problem. The CB Radio aids in getting help more quickly,' he said, "while also helping to get those who may be intoxicated off the road before they hurt themselves or others."

The Presidential Commission on Drunk Driving recommended the following:

"Citizens should be encouraged by governmental and non-governmental groups to report drivers under the influence."

* * * * *

FOODSERVICE INDUSTRY JOINS DD CAMPAIGN

The National Restaurant Association (NRA), the leading trade association for the foodservice industry, has initiated a nationwide drunk-driving campaign that is designed to reach restaurant customers at a very crucial moment, when the decision is made whether or not to drive.

The campaign, which involves restaurant and tavern owners, managers, bartenders and servers, has three separate elements:

- 1) A "server education" program to teach bartenders and servers how to prevent intoxication;
- 2) The introduction of industry practices designed to deter intoxication and to provide alternative transportation for impaired drinkers; and
- 3) A long-range consumer education program targeted at restaurant customers to increase awareness of the dangers of drunk-driving.

The server education program entails a one-day course that will train the managers of restaurants and foodserver chains, who will then teach bartenders and servers about the physical effects of alcohol, state laws, the visible signs of overconsumption and methods of preventing intoxication.

"Our objective is to make this seminar available in every region of the country where a similar program is not yet in place," said NRA President Joe R. Lee.

NRA's campaign also calls for the elimination of all bar promotions or practices that put more than one drink in front of a guest at a time. According to NRA president Lee, "We are discouraging practices which may be perceived as fostering overconsumption of alcoholic beverages. In particular, we are discouraging "all-you-can-drink" offers, 'two-for-one' offers, multiple drinks at cut-off time and unlimited free drinks."

Lee said, "No action on the part of foodservice operators alone can resolve the drunk driving problem. Restaurants and taverns dispense only one quarter of all the alcoholic beverages consumed in the United States. But we believe that we can and should help. We are joining with the other organizations and individuals across the country in doing our part to clear our streets and highways of intoxicated drivers."

From "NEWS NOTES"
National Commission Against
Drunk Driving

FIGURE 3: HAZELDEN-CORK'S PARTICIPANTS

Hazelden and the Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center in California have announced plans for a nationwide prevention program to deal with the alcohol and drug problems among the country's adolescents and young adults.

Entitled "Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's Prevention Training Program," the innovative project was developed as a result of a research initiative in a six-month study of alcohol and other drug issues conducted by the Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center. Experts in the fields of chemical dependency, public health, and sports medicine participated in the study. The results of the study, in addition to the Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's study of sports and the number of sports activities, have been used to develop a prevention program. The Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's target sports participants and organizations are ideal springboards for reaching young adults. The Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's target sports participants are at all levels (grade school, high school, college, and professional) and are tailored for policy makers, communities, schools, and other organizations. The Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's target sports participants are tailored for policy makers, communities, schools, and other organizations. The Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's target sports participants are tailored for policy makers, communities, schools, and other organizations.

Joan Kroch has been a leader in the field of alcohol and drug education for some time. In 1976 she founded Operation Cork, a national organization that produces alcohol drug education films and printed materials for schools and health care agencies. Operation Cork also provides consultation on employee assistance programs.

Hazelden has worked with Operation Cork for years and is a major distributor of their films. The Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center has benefited from their experience and shared goals.

Hazelden-Cork's present facility is located in Minneapolis. However, by late 1985, a \$6.9 million facility, funded by the Hazelden-Cork Foundation, will be completed on Hazelden's Center City campus. The new facility will include a multi-faceted conference and education center, a research center, a center for the arts, and a comprehensive sports and recreation facility. The new facility will also include a screening and conditioning program. Services provided by Hazelden-Cork include individualized, individually designed prevention and treatment programs, group therapy, workshops, seminars, and - upon completion of the new facility - a comprehensive prevention and distribution information and materials useful for the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, prevention programs.

Pat Griffin, member of the Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's staff, manager of Hazelden's Prevention Center, has been instrumental in the Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's activities, including:

- Presentation of the Hazelden-Cork Prevention Center's High School Leagues national meeting in Washington
- Establishment of a national network of key figures in sports health and education
- Chemical awareness presentation to the National Federation of High School Athletic Association meeting
- Consultation with coaches of professional sports, Olympic sports, and high school athletes
- Presentation of prevention workshops "Alcohol and Prevention" and "Calling Your Own Play" to coaches and high school athletes

Informational materials on Hazelden-Cork may be obtained by writing Hazelden-Cork, 355 Sherman, Suite 412, St. Paul, MN 55102. (In Minnesota 612-291-0200).

From Hazelden Professional
Update Newsletter - Oct. 1984

FREE REPRINTS

United Technologies of Hartford, Connecticut has been sponsoring full page public service ads in the Wall Street Journal. In June they featured "Get the Drunks Off the Road" suggesting you can do something about drunk driving. Reprints, 8" x 11", of this striking ad can be obtained by writing to: Harry J. Gray, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, United Technologies, Box 360 Hartford, CT 06141.

Drug Abuse Prevention Program designed to reach more than 48,000 coaches throughout the United States was announced here today by Attorney General Smith.

The Program will be a five-year venture initiated by the Justice Department's Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the National High School Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA) and supported by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the National Football League Players' Association and the National Football League.

The Attorney General, in a speech at the Lexington Center described the program as one of the most significant ever undertaken in the field of drug prevention and education. Mr. Smith said it will target some 48,000 coaches and about 5.5 million student athletes of 20,000 American high schools.

The Attorney General commended DEA Administrator Francis M. Mullen, Jr., for initiating the program and recognizing that drug education and prevention plays a role at least equal to law enforcement in the fight today.

The DEA's Mullen, appearing with NHSACA President Ed Kintz and its Executive Director Carey E. McDonald, pledged DEA's support to the program, which will focus on the special bond of trust and mutual respect that exist between young athletes and their coaches. Also participating in the kick-off announcement were representatives of the IACP, the NFL and the Players' Association.

"Our goal is to reach every coach and student athlete in the country," Mullen said. "We will provide them with drug abuse prevention materials and a plan of action."

As the nation's top drug law enforcement officer, Mullen has long maintained that the ultimate answer to the drug problem in the United States is to diminish demand through education and prevention.

"We have achieved some notable successes in the area of enforcement during the past several years both at home and abroad. But for every greedy, unscrupulous drug trafficker we imprison, there is always another waiting to step in and fill any vacancies."

"Drugs will be with us as long as there are people who want drugs. The undertaking we are announcing today, in my opinion, will go far in alleviating the demand for drugs in our schools and in educating young boys and girls as to what drugs do to their minds and bodies."

The NHSACA's Carey E. McDonald commented, "The bottom line is that the coaches will train their athletes to serve as role models in the area of drug abuse prevention. These young athletes will then exert positive pressure on their peers and on younger students. Hopefully, there will be a snowballing effect that will reach tens of millions of young Americans."

A key element of the program will be a package of drug abuse prevention materials which DEA will provide to participating coaches. The materials emphasize the special relationship that exists between the coaches and the athletes, provide detailed information on the signs of drug abuse and tell the coaches how to set up programs at their respective schools. The program will also involve selected DEA Special Agents who will provide training clinics for coaches at several locations around the country.

For more information contact Ted Swift (202) 635-1333.

* * * * *

DONALD VAN MACDONALL, officially installed as administrator, Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA)...Stressed need for better medical education..." I want to see a better equipped primary care physician, internist and family practitioner."

Fulse Beats Oct. 1984

TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT ruled that a heroin dealer can be held liable for a death caused by "drugs he supplied."

Fulse Beats Oct. 1984

SINGLE CAN OF REGULAR BEER contains same amount of alcohol as shot (1 1/2 oz.) of whiskey. So, if you drink a six pack of beer, said Pharmacists Against Drug Abuse (PADA), you're getting six doses of a very powerful and addictive drug. PADA also suggests that Pulse Beats readers check to see if your community pharmacists are displaying PADA brochures and are actively participating in the program. If they're not, encourage them to do so.

Pulse Beats Oct. 1984

* * * * *

CHANGES

P. Karen B. Olson - Nurse - District 14 teller in Finney has resigned to return to school for her doctorate at University of New Mexico at Albuquerque.

Gale Messerkeil - New Boyd Anderson Service Center Counselor at Choteau.

Robert Clarkson - New Pullman District Alcohol and Drug Program Counselor at White Sulphur Springs.

Terry Stevenson - Farmer Hill Top Service Center Counselor now employed at Deaconess Hospital C.D.U. in Great Falls.

Virginia Hiler - Hill Top Service Center Counselor has resigned to accept out-of-state employment.

Suzanne Wheaton - New employment at District 14 Star Drug Program in Bozeman.

Glen Perry - Is the new director of the Sweet Grass County Foundation in Big Timber.

Frank Kerkhove - New employment at Federal House, Chemical Dependency Clinic in Kalispell.

Larry Danielson and Wanda McFee - New employees at Hill Top Recovery Center - Havre.

By listing personnel changes in various chemical dependency programs, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division does so only for your information and convenience. We intend no implication as to why the changes have occurred. They are no more or no less than what is listed.

Robert MacConnel

* * * * *

MAJOR NARCOTICS BILL INTRODUCED on June 19 by Rep Charles B. Rangel, D-NY Chrm, House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control...Would give \$750 million annually to state and local governments for drug law enforcement and drug abuse prevention and treatment. Under bill, funds would be made available to states on basis of demonstrated need, taking into account severity of drug trafficking and abuse within each state. State and local resources to resolve problem would also be considered. Bill includes funds for fiscal years 1986 through 1990. For more details contact: Karen Watson, House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, Room H-2-234, House Office Bldg, Annex 2, Washington, DC 20515 Phone 202-226-3040.

Pulse Beats Aug. 1984

AFTER EARLY TESTING, unique anti-drug abuse program called Pharmacists Against Drug Abuse (PADA) was launched nationally in late April. Program positions 120,000 pharmacists across nation as key resources for information, as speakers for school and community groups, and as advisors on subject of drug abuse.

Pulse Beats Aug. 1984

Please note that the following information is being provided to you as a courtesy. We are attending plans to provide each participant with a copy of the attendance certificate as proof of attendance. The attendance certificate will also contain a list of names as verification of training.

ATTENTION: Please note that the following information is being provided to you as a courtesy.

NEW YORK 10/1/84

It is important that the review of tapes must be in the A.D.A.D. office at 1000 Broadway, New York, New York. It is impossible to schedule time and the number of judges. We are not sure how many tapes we will have. At the last review 10 tapes were reviewed. The tapes are being reviewed, with 4 of these arriving the afternoon of the last day. The tapes represents approximately 7 1/2 hours of listening time for judges. Please note that the review of tapes must be in the A.D.A.D. office at 1000 Broadway, New York, New York. We are attending plans to provide each participant with a copy of the attendance certificate as proof of attendance. The attendance certificate will also contain a list of names as verification of training.

NEW 24 HOUR HOTLINE: The NEW YORK 10/1/84 TELNE can be reached by dialing 1-800/ALCOHOL. Family Care magazine is helping to fund the hotline.

Pulse Beats Oct. 1984

BAN ON ALCOHOL ADVERTISING

The Center for Science in the Public Interest plans a national campaign to get one million signatures on a petition to force Congress to ban alcohol advertising. The center is also planning to force Congress to ban alcohol advertising.

The center is also planning to force Congress to ban alcohol advertising. The center is also planning to force Congress to ban alcohol advertising.

The center is also planning to force Congress to ban alcohol advertising. The center is also planning to force Congress to ban alcohol advertising.

For further information, contact the center at 1755 South Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 or (202) 332-4110.

From "Network
Ohio Department of Health
October 1984

SECOND HAND HIGH

"If a mother smokes (marijuana) in the same room where an infant lies and the infant breathes the cannabinoids in the smoke, . . . the baby would be intoxicated," says Dr. Grigori L. Lantner in an interview in the September 1984 issue of LISTEN magazine.

Dr. Lantner, a pediatrician in Ohio, has lectured widely on the dangers of marijuana use. She has also testified before the U.S. Senate and has appeared on numerous TV and radio shows. In the LISTEN interview Dr. Lantner stresses dangers to the children of marijuana users.

"I see babies that are high," says Dr. Lantner. "I have had several mothers say to me, 'I got the baby high and the pot keeps it sleeping for hours. It doesn't even respond to my feeding.'"

Another problem that Dr. Lantner reports is that of parents who offer marijuana to their young children. Some of these children start actively using the drug at the age of eight or ten years. This problem is particularly hard to deal with, since getting a child high is currently considered child abuse, so social agencies are reluctant to intervene.

Dr. Lantner goes on to say that children who see their parents using marijuana will probably start using it themselves at an early age. "And if children start using drugs early," she says, "there is almost no chance that they will be able to stop or turn back time and mature normally. Once you're high, you don't know what normal is."

From "LISTEN" Sept 1984

Alcohol abuse was considered a major national problem by more than 90 percent of physicians responding to a survey conducted by the American Medical Association (AMA). At the same time, only one out of five felt that alcoholism is a "disease entity," and more than 45 percent said they did not feel competent to treat alcoholism.

The survey, one of series of AAAs Weekly American Medical News, have obtained responses from 4,071 practicing physicians in 1983.

While 90.35 percent considered alcoholism a major national problem, 57 percent of the respondents felt it was a disease entity. Only 47 percent said it was "not a problem."

Asked what statement most closely reflected their opinion about alcoholism, 31.41 percent of the respondents said it is a disease entity, 17.48 percent said it is "symptomatic of a psychiatric disorder," 57.4 percent said it is "a combination of the two"; and 2.62 percent said it is "neither a disease nor a psychiatric problem."

Eighty-one percent of the responding physicians said that when taking a medical history, they routinely ask patients about their drinking habits. And 85 percent said special training was necessary to treat alcoholism properly, with half of the respondents in support of special training in medical schools. (American Medical News, 535 North Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610)

WALTER FLYNN, vp general mgr, ABC-TV, is asking for help. He's concerned about messages from TV and radio that glorize or glorify seriousness of illegal drug use. He wants to alert media managers in the industry. He's asking citizens to send him descriptions of advertisements, programs and shows that send the "drugs are fun" message to young people. He adds a list of his suggestions for Walter Flynn, vp general mgr, ABC-TV, 121 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY.

From Pulse Beats, Aug. 1984

USE OF ANTIBIOTICS TO FATTEN CATTLE - VETERINARIANS coming under increased criticism. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report that 18 Midwesterners infected with germs resistant to antibiotics. Researchers said germs came from South Dakota beef cattle. To fatten the cattle, the farmer fed heavily doses of antibiotics. Cattle developed a resistance to the germs. The germs then were transferred to the humans. Twelve of the 18 later took penicillin for streptococcal earaches and bronchitis. But because they had acquired the resistant germs, the drug worked no miracles. Eleven people were hospitalized. The CDC said. Antibiotic antibiotics to animal feed should be re-examined and the risks and benefits weighed more carefully. said CDC's Scott Holmberg.

Pulse Beats, Oct. 1984 p.3

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY PLAN TO DEGLAMORIZE DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE

In a recent Senate hearing, Lee, television star and member of the Entertainment Council, described how this newly created organization will develop projects and campaigns to deglamorize drug and alcohol abuse by and through the entertainment industry - recording, motion pictures and television.

Among the projects underway for 1984 are

1. Develop a program to encourage writers, directors and producers to deglamorize drug and alcohol use in motion pictures and television.
2. Development of a quarterly magazine highlighting individuals from entertainment industry as drug free role models. A special section designed for young people will feature teen celebrities, sports figures, and personalities from the music industry. The magazine will be made available to support national and local awareness efforts.
3. Auto sports stadium events supported by auto related industries to promote a national campaign "Driving Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse," has been initiated. The funds raised by these events will be used to support local drug and alcohol awareness efforts. The first event took place at the New Orleans Superdome, on May 5, and involved local public officials and celebrities and was co-sponsored by Pace Corporation.

From NIDA, Information Letter, June 1984

1000 S. Any. 111

KIRBY

AMA PUTS DRUGS IN

It is easy to draw false conclusions from the latest NIDA high school senior survey. Clearly, marijuana use among seniors has increased over the past five years, and a growing number of students appear to believe that is so. But pot is not such a great evil.

But what does this prove?

As Dr. Mitchell S. Rosen, director of the Phoenix House, told students at Lafayette College this spring, "It is true that a good many adolescents are not stupid. They have kept up with what they have learned about marijuana during the past few years. They have heard stories from AMA, from Scientific Affairs, and the Institute of Medicine have had to say about health hazards."

"So what is surprising is the fact that the increase in heavy use, in daily use, has been so great. But that the increase in use has been so great."

And what is the reason for this? The reason is that in our society is that there has been a realization that the use of other and more potent drugs like cocaine and amphetamines is more dangerous than the use of marijuana. And the seniors surveyed used some drug last year.

While the seniors surveyed were not able to determine changes in drug use by adolescents, it is clear that the use of marijuana does not reflect drug use by adolescents most likely to be at risk for drug abuse.

From the Phoenix House News, Summer Edition 1984

THE PROBLEM OF DRUGS

THE PROBLEM OF DRUGS

A story of a woman who is a victim of drug abuse, of a woman who is a victim of a wife and mother's severe emotional distress, of a woman who is a victim of a woman's detachment from the problem.

"IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME"

An excellent film about the problem of drug abuse, and the events that lead to recognizing the problem.

DRUGS AND MOTORCYCLING

There has been a lot of research on how alcohol affects car drivers. Much less has been done on the effects of alcohol on motorcycle riders. But most motorcyclists would agree that it takes more coordination and alertness to ride a motorcycle than it does to drive a car. And there is a high risk of being injured on a motorcycle as the result of other drivers' mistakes.

Car driving skills, such as visual sharpness, reaction time and general awareness are hindered by alcohol. Motorcyclists need these skills even more than car drivers. This leads to one conclusion: riding a motorcycle is a high risk. Using other drugs before riding is a high risk.

Most motorcyclists believe that they can ride a few drinks without affecting their riding skill. But even at moderately low levels, alcohol can affect vision, coordination and ability to react. Skills that are vital to riding. Most of the vital riding skills begin to deteriorate after only one drink. Three to four drinks cause further impairment and loss of efficiency, and after about five drinks the motorcyclist's basic coordination begins to fail.

From the Motorcycle Safety Foundation
Charles Ford, Perris, California

...of the ... of data ... accidents may ... prepared by National Transportation ... Division of Watercraft, ... at least 40% and perhaps as many as 80% of ... of boating deaths on drinking.

"False Peats" July 1984

FIFTH AND SIXTH ... AND HEALTH RELEASED

An updated report ... of alcoholism and alcohol abuse was released to Congress by Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler.

Ms. Heckler ... that Americans attitudes toward alcoholism ... ways to help victims of alcoholism ... policies that affect so many Americans and their families.

Findings from the

... alcoholism is 10 times greater than for ...

The ... is 10 times greater than general population.

... are 5 to 15 times more likely to have ...

Accidents ... that 15 percent of those who ...

... to determine with precision indicated the ... involved with drinking and ...

Other research findings ...

Many people with the potential to develop alcoholism have inherited ... that place them at risk.

Chronic ... is second to Alzheimer's Disease as a known cause of mental deterioration in adults.

A ... more than other ... alcoholism treatment.

There is further evidence that drinking during pregnancy risks to the health of the newborn ...

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents
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CERTIFIED SINCE LAST HABIT PUBLICATION

Todd, Cheryl	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Murphy, Michael	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Azure, Sharon	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Lipinski, Teri	Prevention Education
Finley, Britt	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Garias, Jane	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Koniefes, Thomas	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Duepner, Margo	Chemical Dependency Counselor
Habets, Carol	Chemical Dependency Counselor

Total Certified = 279

* * * * *

A FINAL SHOT AT D.U.I.

15% of the U. S. population consumes 74% of the alcohol.

Beer accounts for half of all the alcohol consumed in this country.

Most Americans drink. More than 80% admit to driving after drinking.

On the average weekday night, one out of every 10 drivers on the road is legally drunk.

Drunken driving accidents are the most frequently committed violent crime in the United States.

Relatively few problem drinkers (about 7 percent of the drinking population) account for more than 60 percent of all alcohol-related fatal crashes.

The average drunk driver arrested has a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .20, double the level of presumed intoxication in most states. (Roughly 15 drinks of 86 proof liquor or 15 beers in four hours for a 160-pound man.)

The crux of the drinking driver problem in most states is not necessarily the lack of adequate laws to deal with drunk drivers, but the lack of consistent enforcement of those laws by state and local prosecutors, judges and licensing officials. Because the risk of arrest and punishment is low, the deterrent effect of the laws is diminished.

Increasing public awareness and concern about drunk driving led 22 states and the District of Columbia to enact legislation in 1982 that mandates more severe DUI sanctions or plugs loopholes to ensure that existing statutes are more consistently enforced.

U.S. Dept. of Transportation

* * * * *

THE TREATMENT OF ALCOHOLISM: A SHIFT AWAY FROM THE HOSPITAL

by James A. Johnson, Jr.,
Florida State University

There is a major reshaping of the health care system in this country which has the potential for a dramatic impact on the treatment of alcoholism. Subsequently, the delivery of services must be planned to meet changes that are mandating a more restrictive environment in which treatment is provided. To develop strategies which will assure continued high quality treatment of alcoholism it becomes imperative to recognize these political and financial trends.

The financial power structure of the health care system is currently being reorganized. As the federal policy of reducing the size of health care is implemented, there will be continued reductions in the availability of state and federal dollars for the treatment of alcoholism. The result will be increasing emphasis on cost-effectiveness.

Terence Gorski reports that the insurance companies and government regulating agencies are at the forefront of the changes taking place in the treatment of alcoholism. The major attack is on hospital-based programs which are charged to be too expensive because they are used to subsidize hospital overhead that is not directly related to the provision of alcoholism services. The argument is that comparable treatment can be provided in a nonhospital based setting at less cost.

It is expected that the major insurance companies will institute policies that will limit compensation for treatment. The focus will be upon removing coverage for the relapse prone patient, reducing the length of stay for inpatient treatment, and refusing to pay for rehabilitation services provided in hospital-based treatment settings. In a variety of states Blue Cross is already demanding concurrent utilization review justifying the need for inpatient hospital treatment every seven days. Preferential reimbursement policies are being made for non-hospital based facilities. Since Blue Cross tends to be a trend setter, it is anticipated that other states and third-party payers will follow these practices. The end result may be reimbursement formulas that limit hospital-based treatment service to acute withdrawal and related medical complications. Long-term lengths of stay in hospital-based programs will need to be justified in terms of organic and psychiatric conditions requiring medical monitoring or treatment.

To meet this challenge many hospitals will be forced into organizational restructuring which will allow the establishment of alcoholism programs as free standing facilities. Smaller inpatient facilities may simply be forced out of business.

The expected changes in reimbursement structures will cause a reactive change in program administration and clinical management. At first a haphazard reaction will most likely create confusion and threaten the existence of the entire treatment system. As the reality and permanence of the trend toward short-term inpatient stay followed by a long-term continuum of out-patient treatment becomes apparent, the field will reorganize around the issue of clinical and administrative restructuring. The flexible programs with a strong commitment to the treatment of alcoholism will be the ones most likely to survive the transition away from the traditional hospital program.

-- Awareness (Alabama), Vol. 5, No. 11,
April 1984.

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NEW EMPLOYEES AT A D, A D.

Michael Kauffman - Program Evaluation Section

Marcia Armstrong - Certification and Training Section

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